(d) how was this study initiated and who took the initiative; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken to study the socio-cultural furture of the Medaras community of Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The title of the study is "The Medari of Andhra Pradesh an ethnographic profile by Dr. K. Ravi and Shri G.V. Ramana".

(d) On the basis of representation made by Prof. Pulla Rao, a Social Activist, the Ministry instructed the Anthropoligical Survey of India to study the Medaras community of Andhra Pradesh.

(e) The study has already been conducted by the Anthropological Survey of India.

Neglect of tribal culture in National Museums

3524. SHRI URKHAO GWRA BRAHMA: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in many National Museums, tribal cultures of India are not getting proper place and some of them are kept in a neglected manner;

(b) if so, what steps will be taken by her Ministry to improve the conditions;

(c) how many National Museums have depicted or displayed properly the tribal art and culture in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the expenditure incurred thereon for the above purpose?

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Some important museums under the administrative control of Ministry of Culture such as Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Manav Sangrahalaya, Bhopal and Indian Museum, Kolkata are conducting several programmes for collection, documentation, conservation and display of tribal cultures

of India including several exhibitions, educational programmes, seminar/ workshops and cultural programmes. Anthropological Survey of India, Kolkata also has Museums at their regional centres, where museum artefacts are displayed on various tribes in the country. Besides these, the National Museum, New Delhi has collections on tribal and folk cultures in the Anthropology Section and a popular gallery on 'Trbal Life Styles in the North East'.

In most of the Museums, depiction and promotion of tribal culture are part of the normal schemes, which also cater to the non-tribal artefacts/ culture. As such it is not possible to indicate the exact expenditure separately. However, 10% of Plan Budget of the Ministry is earmarked for expenditure in the North-East States.

Setting up of Indian Culture Centres

3525. SHRI O.T. LEPCHA: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have set up Indian Culture Centres in the different parts of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of amount spent on setting-up of the above Centres during the last three years; and

(d) if the answer to part (a) above be in the negative, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) to (c) The Government of India has set up seven Zonal Cultural Centres in different parts of the country to extend support to folk and traditional artistes and artisans of the country. The seven Zonal Cultural Centres are (i) North Zone Cultural Centre, Patiala, (ii) North Central Zone Cultural Centre, Allahabad, (iii) Eastern Zone Cultural Centre, Kolkata, (iv) North East Zone Cultural Centre, Dimapur, Nagaland, (v) West Zone Cultural Centre, Udaipur, (vi) South Central Zone Cultural Centre, Nagpur, and (vii) South Zone Cultural Centre, Thanjavur. These Centres were set up in the years 1985 and 1986 therefore, the question of expenditure on setting up in last three years does not arise. However, for the maintenance of these Centres the Central